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## UNH Hospitality Management Student Awarded Prestigious National Scholarship

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Christine Meyer, recipient of the 2009 Arthur J. Packard Memorial Scholarship

DURHAM, N.H. – A University of New Hampshire hospitality management student has won the 2009 Arthur J. Packard Memorial Scholarship, one of the top scholarships offered by the hospitality industry.

Christine Meyer, of Brookfield, Conn., received the \$5,000 first-place prize from the American Hotel & Lodging Educational Foundation, the not-for-profit affiliate of the American Hotel and Lodging Association.

"The Arthur J. Packard Memorial Scholarship will provide me with a means to further my education in hospitality management. It also will help me build a successful hospitality career. The connections I will make through the American Hotel and Lodging Association will place me in the center of the industry, keeping me in touch with successful and knowledgeable hospitality leaders," Meyer said.

The scholarship honors Arthur J. Packard, a third-generation hotelier, whose work for American Hotel and Lodging Association extended over 30 years -- one of the longest on record. The Packard Competition provides scholarships to the most outstanding student of lodging management and to two runners-up through an annual national competition among foundation affiliated four-year programs.

"Christine is highly deserving of this award. She has applied herself diligently to her major in hospitality management at the Whittemore School of Business and Economics. She is the second recipient from the University of New Hampshire for this prestigious Arthur J. Packard Memorial Scholarship awarded more than 20 years ago to Kate Griffin," said Raymond Goodman, chair of the UNH Department of Hospitality Management.

Meyer has had her sights set on a career in hospitality management from a young age. Growing up, her family vacationed every summer at a Vermont bed and breakfast. The owners of the bed and breakfast made every stay memorable, she said, creating a home away from home.

"That is exactly what I dreamt of doing. Those innkeepers inspired me, showing me the joy in making others happy and comfortable, no matter if it is a short business stay or long family vacation," she said.

Following graduation, Meyer hopes to work at a Boston-area hotel or a resort in a tropical location. Her dream is to one day open a bed and breakfast similar to the Vermont inn she remembers from childhood.

"I want a place where I can make connections with my guests who return year after year or offer an escape for those caught up in their busy lives," she said.

The UNH Hospitality Management Program ranks fourth nationally among hospitality management programs in schools of business accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. The UNH Whittemore School of Business and Economics has been recognized as one of the best business schools in the nation by *The Princeton Review*, one of the Top 25 Most Entrepreneurial Colleges by *The Princeton Review* and *Forbes.com*, and one of the top 100 graduate business schools in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report*.

The University of New Hampshire, founded in 1866, is a world-class public research university with the feel of a New England liberal arts college. A land, sea, and space-grant university, UNH is the state's flagship public institution, enrolling 11,800 undergraduate and 2,400 graduate students.

## **PHOTO**

Christine Meyer, recipient of the 2009 Arthur J. Packard Memorial Scholarship  
<http://www.unh.edu/news/img/packardaward.JPG>

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